

# INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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25X1

COUNTRY North Korea

REPORT

SUBJECT Commodity Prices

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

The attached report of commodity prices in North Korea as of April 1958

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STATE	ARMY	NAVY	AIR	FBI	AEC						
(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)											

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I. DetailsCommodity Prices  
April 1958

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the prices were limited to those at national stores.

A. Prices of clothing

<u>Commodities</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Price (Won)</u>	<u>Place</u>
Suit, wool cloth, NK made top & bottom		13,000	Sup'ung National Store
Top underwear, cotton cloth, Chinese made	1	2,200	"
Athletics suit, cotton cloth, NK made top & bottom		1,800	"
Shorts, cotton cloth, NK made	1	200	"
Knit shirt, white, half-length sleeves, NK	1	200 (sic)	"
Knit shirt, half-length sleeves, Cotton, Chinese	1	400	"
Colored socks, cotton, NK made, high grade	1 pair	120	"
medium grade	1 "	90	"
Colored socks, wool, NK	1 "	300	"
Colored socks, wool, Chinese	1 "	600	"
Student's uniform, cotton, NK, double-breasted	1 suit	2,700	P'yongyang National Store.
Cotton coat, close-buttoned, turn-down collar, NK high grade	1	2,500	"
medium grade	1	2,300	"
Trousers, bell-buttoned, cotton, NK, high grade	1	1,500	"
medium grade	1	1,400	"
Suit, wool cloth, imported high grade	1 suit	50,000	"
medium "	1 "	40,000	"
low grade	1 "	30,000	"
Leather jumper, imported	1	20,000	"
Corduroy, imported	1 meter	1,000	"
Corduroy, NK made	1 "	1,000	"
Poplin white shirt, Chinese made; high grade	1	2,000	Sup'ung National Store
medium grade	1	1,500	"

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B. Prices of Life Necessities

Leather shoes, black, NK (for man)	1 pair	1,500	P'yongyang National Store.
Leather shoes, imported (for man)	1 "	1,500	"
Leather shoes, imported (for woman)	1 "	1,200	"
Radio set, "Moranbong," NK	1	2,000	"
Volley ball, NK	1	400	Sup'ung National Store
Soccer ball, NK	1	1,500	"
Volley ball net, NK	1	1,500	"
Patch, NK	1 box	5	"
Oven, aluminum, 2 Toes(sic) capacity, NK	1	800	"
Razor blade, imported	1	10	"
Electric bulb, 60 watts, NK	1	90	"
Dye, Chinese, various colors	1 small pack	25	"
Beer jug, 1 Hop (sic) capacity, NK	1	100	"
Roller, mimeography, NK	1	1,200	"
Stencil paper, NK	1 sheet	50	"
File, for writing on stencil paper, second hand, imported	1	8,000	P'yongyang National Store.
File, for stencil paper new, imported	1	15,000	
Pen holder, NK	1	5	Sup'ung National Store.
Pen, NK	1	5	P'yongyang National Store
Ink, NK, powder	1 pack	10	"
Rubber shoes, NK (for woman)	1 pair	350	"
Rubber shoes, NK (for man)	1 pair	300	"

C. Price of Food Stuffs

Rice	1 mal.	300 - 350	Sup'ung market
Pork	1 kg	150	"
Lunch	1 dish	50	Sup'ung National Restaurant
Wheat vermicelli	1 bowl	50	"
Pibimbap (boiled rice mixed with meat and vegetables)	1 bowl	50	"
Buck wheat vermicelli high grade	1 bowl	80	"
ordinary	1 bowl	50	"
Rice, cooked	1 bowl	20	"

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Chopsuey, high grade	1 bowl	80	Sup'ung National Restaurant
" ordinary	1 bowl	50	
Dinner (bought for ration ticket)	1 meal	25	"
Soju (low-class distilled drink)	1 Hop	42	"
Vodka	1 bottle	450	"
Ginseng liquor	1 bottle	650	"
Bean curd, small	1 cake	5	"
" Large	1 cake	10	"
Hot bean paste	1 kg	200	Sup'ung National Store
Egg	1 stick (10)	200	"
Beer (4 Hop capacity)	1 bottle	65	Sup'ung National Restaurant
Beer (1 Hop capacity)	1 jug	20	"
Kyngang (cigarettes)	1 pack (20)	75	Sup'ung National Store
P'yongyang ( " )	1 pack (20)	90	"
Konsol ( " )	1 pack (20)	35	"
Kalmaegi ( " )	1 pack (20)	25	"
Taedongmun ( " )	1 pack (20)	20	"

D. Prices of Books

Russian Readers (published in Moscow)	1 copy Vol. I	80	Sup'ung National Book Store
	Vol. II	80	"
Russian Grammar (NK publication)	1 copy	250	"
The Solbongsan (mountain) novel, published in NK	1 copy	120	"
Complete Works of Stalin (Published in Moscow, approximately 11 volumes, Korean edition)	each volume	40	"
Complete Works of Lenin (published in Moscow, approximately 15 volumes, Korean edition)	each volume	80	"
How was the steel tempered? (published in Moscow)	1 copy	60	"
Birth Tree (Russian novel, published in Moscow, Korean edition)	1 copy Vol. I	50	"
	Vol. II	50	"
Virgin Soil Reclaimed (published in NK, novel)	1 copy	150	"
Korean-Soviet Literature (published in NK, monthly magazine)	1 copy	60	"

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Korean Literature (monthly magazine, published in NK)	1 copy	80	Sup'ung National Book Store
Killoja (monthly magazine, published in NK)	1 copy	70	"
Nodong Sinmun (Labor Party organ, daily paper)	per month	90	"
Minju Choson (NK Government organ, daily paper)	per month	90	"
Nodongja Sinmun (Trade Federation organ, newspaper)	per month	35	"
Minju Ch'ongnyon (DYL organ, newspaper, published every other day)	per month	35	"
P'yongyang Ilbo (sold on the street)	1 copy	5	"

E. Prices of Drugs

Penicillin, Soviet made	1 bottle (10cc)	500	Sup'ung market
Tincture of Iodine	1 bottle (20g)	50	P'yongyang National Pharmacy